

Written Testimony of Marcus Popham, Father
Fatherhood Initiative Program
Madonna Place, Inc.
240 Main St.
Norwich CT 06360

Prepared the Appropriations Committee
Public Hearing – February 27, 2015
Public Hearing on the Governors Proposed Budget

My testimony is in opposition to the proposal to eliminate funding for the John S. Martinez Fatherhood Initiative Programs, within the Department of Social Services, the Fatherhood Initiative under “Lower Priority Contracted Services” within the Department of Children and Families and the Fatherhood Funding within the Office of Early Childhood under the Children’s Trust Fund line item

Hello My name is Marcus Popham,

I have a three and a half month old son name Elijah. I am writing this letter on behalf of myself, my son and many other father who attend Fatherhood Initiative through Madonna’s place.

I write this letter to ask you to please keep the program. Growing up in a single parent household I never learned the values of having a father and being a father, that being said I have learned many parenting skills to be a better dad and a well-rounded individual.

The Fatherhood Initiative gives me the opportunity to express myself as a man and a father, learn new skills, become a problem solver, be a student and a teacher to other dads and opens doors to other outlets in my community.

I thank you for your time in listening to my testimony. Please take into consideration our children need fathers who are not afraid to reach out for help to pass down these good morals and values to them.

Thank You,

Marcus Popham